Minimum specifiactions for Nursery Schools

4146. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Council of Eduaction Research and Training (NCERT) have set the minimum specifications for the Nursery Schools; and

(b) if so, whether these specifications have been implemented and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) NCERT has recently developed draft minimum specifications for Nursery Schools, which have been circulated widely and comments/ suggestions invited thereon. Specifications and norms are generally not finalised and communicated to State Governments for implementation without due consultation with them.

Anganwadi Centres

4147. SHRI K. G. MAHESWARAPPA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Anganwadi Centres, workers and helpers in Karnataka;

(b) whether Government are aware that the Anganwadi workers resorted to agitation and hunger strike for the increase of honourarium and the general improvement in their service conditions; and

(c) if so, what action Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN TNE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) Under Integrated Child Development Services Programme in Karnataka 22164 Centres under central sector and 3284 Centres under State Sector are sanctioned. Accordingly, 22164 Anganwadi Workers and 22164 Helpers under Central Sector and 3284 Anganwadi Workers and 3284 Helpers under State Sector are sanctioned.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Anganwadi Workers have been demanding status of Government Servants and improvement in financial benefits particularly the rates of monthly honorarium.

(c) Government is unable to accept the demand for giving the status of government employees to Anganwadi Workers and Helpers as it will be against the basic principles of the Integrated Child Development Services Scheme. The Scheme is based on voluntary and community participation of village women who work on part time (4½ hours daily) basis as voluntary workers selected from the local community. As regards, revision of honorarium of the Anganwadi Workers and Helpers, the matters is receiving Govenment's utmost attention.

Amendment of All India Council of Technical Education Act

4148. SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Janardhan Reddy Committee has recommended amendment of the All India Council of Technical Education Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to amend the same;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) The CABE